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Application No. UNKNOWN Preliminary Amendment Dated: 12 20 04

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

BIERING ET AL.

Examiner:

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Serial no.:

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By:

Name:

Susánna Li

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-identified application filed herewith, please enter the following preliminary amendment based on claims as filed and published with International Search Report.

Please find enclosed the English translation of the application including claims 1-13.

Amendments to the Specification. A new abstract page is supplied to conform to that appearing on the publication page of the WIPO application, but the new abstract is typed on a separate page as required by U.S. practice.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 4 of this paper.

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Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.